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RUSSIA-UKRAINE
SITUATION REPORT**

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Malcontent News

Russia-Ukraine War SITREP

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SUMMARY – DAY 532 3

DAILY ASSESSMENT 5

TODAY'S WAR IN UKRAINE MAP 8

UKRAINE WEATHER 9

SOIL SATURATION AND HYDROLOGY..... 10

KHARKIV 11

DONBAS REGION 15

LUHANSK 15

NORTHEAST DONETSK 19

SOUTHWESTERN DONETSK 22

ZAPORIZHIA..... 29

BLACK SEA, CRIMEA, MYKOLAIV, AND ODESA REGION 35

WESTERN AND CENTRAL UKRAINE..... 36

NORTHERN AND NORTHEASTERN UKRAINE..... 38

RUSSIAN FRONT 39

BELARUSIAN FRONT 40

THEATERWIDE 41

RUSSIA VS. UKRAINE HEAVY EQUIPMENT LOSSES..... 44

RUSSIAN MOBILIZATION, MOBIKS, AND MIR 45

WAR CRIMES AND HUMAN RIGHTS..... 45

GEOPOLITICS 45

ECONOMIC..... 45

SUMMARY – DAY 532

It has been 3,452 days since Russia occupied the Crimea Peninsula on January 27, 2014, and one year and 167 days since Russia expanded its war against Ukraine.

- There will be widespread thunderstorms and showers on August 11, which will slow the operational tempo
- Showers and thunderstorms slowed the operational tempo in some areas on August 10
- Ukrainian forces held defensive lines at Lyman Pershi, Synkivka, and Vilshana
- Mutual fighting continued near Novoselivske
- The Kupyansk District Military Administration announced the mandatory evacuation of 37 Ukrainian villages in Kharkiv
- Russian forces tried to advance on Nadyia
- Fighting continued in Klishchiivka, Andriivka, and Kurdyumivka
- Ukrainian forces made incremental gains in Urozhaine, with Russian troops unable to break out of their encirclement
- Ukrainian forces took control of the northern part of Robotyne and made additional advances between Robotyne and Verbove

- The Reykartz Hotel in Zaporizhzhia, used by the United Nations, was hit by a Russian Iskander-K ballistic cruise missile
- Reactor 4 at the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant is being shut down to a steam leak – there is no danger to the community
- Reactor 6 is being brought to hot shutdown at ZNPP
- The 750 kV powerline that supplies ZNPP is disconnected
- IAEA inspectors are still blocked from some parts of Units 1, 2, 5, and 6, including the roofs
- The Chongar Bridge between occupied Crimea and Kherson is supposed to be out of service for seven to ten more days
- Poland is going to deploy 10,000 troops to the Belarusian border
- The search for bodies and survivors in the Russian city of Sergiev Posad continued, with grizzling discoveries being made
- A Ukrainian military expert believes that Russia has exhausted its supply of Kh-22 antiship cruise missiles
- Azerbaijan and Estonia announced military aid packages to Ukraine
- Polish President Andrzej Duda told the Washington Post that Ukraine does not have enough military hardware to defeat Russia

- A humanitarian aid queue was shelled by Russian in Bilozerka, wounding six

DAILY ASSESSMENT

We assess the following:

1. We have significant concerns that Ukrainian forces are incapable of setting conditions for a breakthrough attack in 2023.
2. We assess that signals from Kyiv indicating the next phase of the summer offensive is being prepared, and we now believe there are **five** operational areas where the next phase could start.
3. In our assessment, the reduced format Stavka on August 9 indicates Ukraine is preparing significant activity in the next 24 to 48 hours. If this is ground operations, they may be delayed by an additional 24 hours due to weather.
4. We maintain that it is highly unlikely that Ukraine will execute a wet crossing of the Dnipro River with a battalion-sized or larger force. However, the ongoing media blackout, the declaration of the entire right bank from Beryslav to the mouth of the Dnipro as a combat area, and an expanding number of Ukrainian

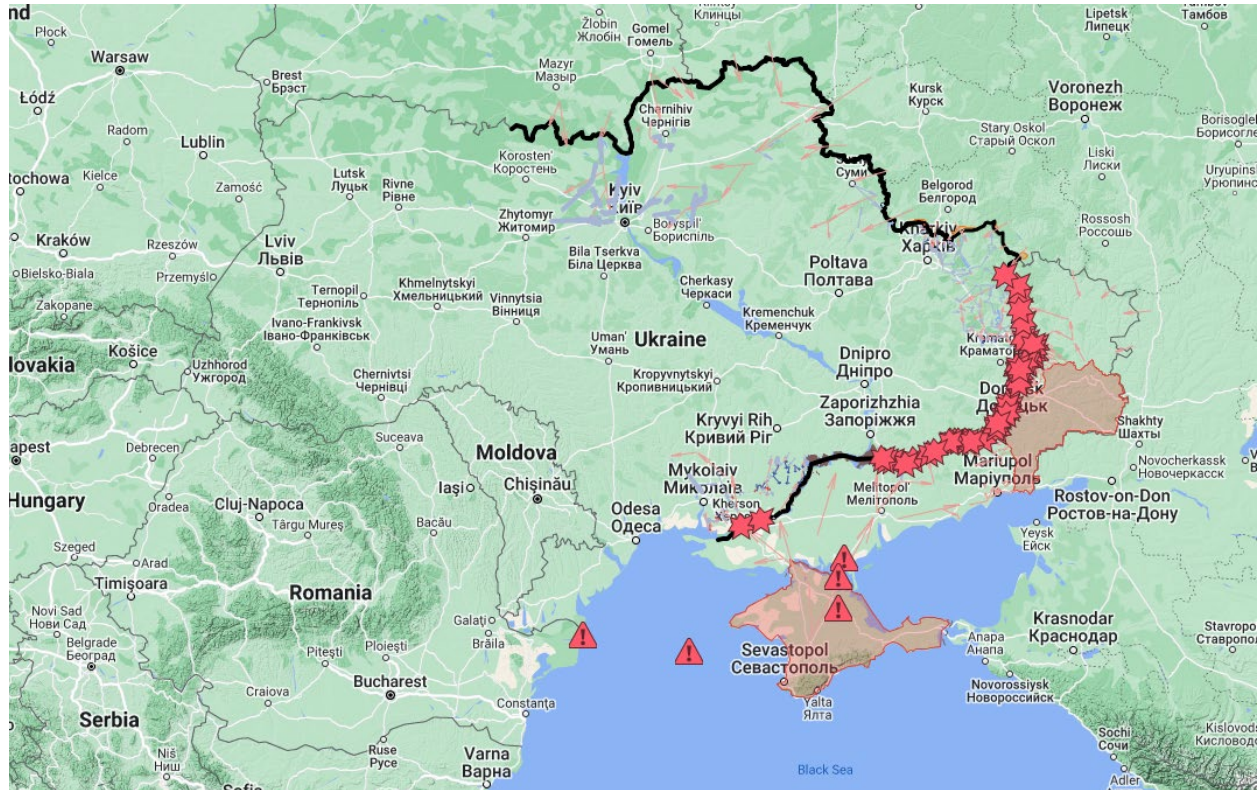
- bridgeheads on the left bank could be setting conditions for a larger offensive operation.
5. We maintain the loss of the road bridges at Henichesk and Chongar, and the previous damage to the railroad bridge at Syvash, is degrading Russian logistics in eastern Kherson and Zaporizhzhia.
 6. Due to a lack of troop rotation, growing ammunition shortages, and weak commanders, Russia is pushing combat ineffective and combat destroyed units to the forwardmost line of friendly troops (FLOT), engaging in attritional warfare against Ukrainian units.
 7. The current Ukrainian military activity is subordinate offensives and shaping operations, and the main operation has not started.
 8. Despite Ukraine's plans to move to the next phase, we maintain that Western partners are not meeting their promised military training, heavy equipment, and ammunition dates, negatively impacting Ukraine's military capabilities.
 9. We assess that Russian and Belarusian aggression and threats on the borders of Ukraine, Poland, Latvia, Lithuania, and the Black Sea coast will continue to expand and lead to an international incident if Ukraine's allies do not take a stronger posture.
 10. Russian President Vladimir Putin's stature, both inside and outside of Russia, remains weakened after the failed Prigozhin Insurrection, and there continues to

be a small but very real possibility of another insurrection or coup attempt.

11. The Russian Ministry of Defense remains in a chaotic state, incapable of creating mission cohesion between penal units, mobiks, conscripts, elite forces, PMCs, and proxy forces.
12. Mistrust among the command structures of the Russian Ministry of Defense, intelligence, and security community is negatively impacting Russia's ability to wage war within Ukraine.
13. Russian Chief of Staff Valery Gerasimov and Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu are some of the best allies available for the Ukrainian Ministry of Defense due to their acceptance of systemic corruption, political infighting, waste of military resources, and refusal to adapt to the realities within the theater of war.
14. While the possibility of an intentional nuclear accident caused by Russian occupiers at the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant remains low, the threat should be taken seriously.

[Jump to the Action Report.](#)

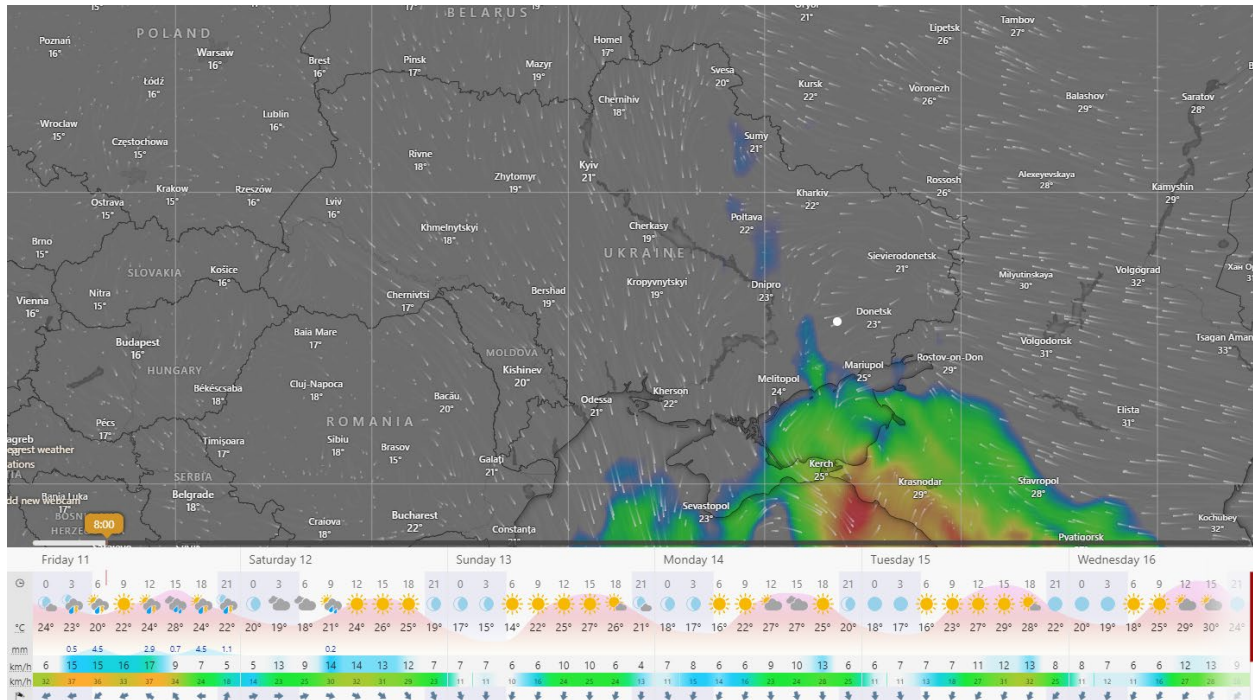
TODAY'S WAR IN UKRAINE MAP



About the maps: Red triangles are sites of significant events unrelated to missile attacks, insurgencies, or ground combat, such as the sinking of the *Moskva* and the explosion at the Saky Naval airbase. Gray circles indicate an area where fighting has ended with no change in the line of conflict. The archived offensive layer is turned off by default, but you can toggle it on/off in the Map Legend. If you see a settlement name highlighted [like this](#), it is a link to our war map that will take you to the location explained in the Situation Report.

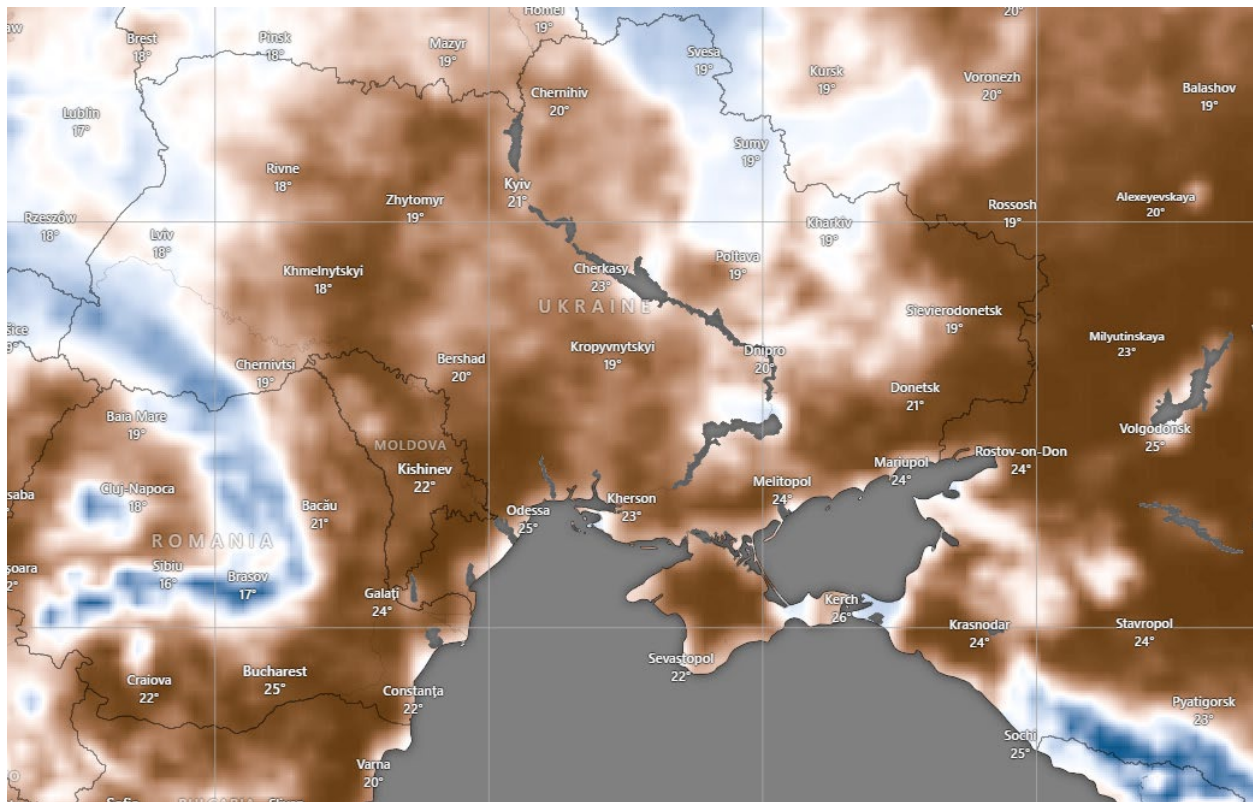
[Russia-Ukraine War Report Map](#)

UKRAINE WEATHER



The ECMWF ensemble forecast model is unchanged and predicts widespread showers and thunderstorms for August 11, with the potential for severe activity. Seasonal pop-up showers and thunderstorms remain possible across most of Ukraine through August 16. High temperatures will be between 23° and 33° Celcius, and lows of 11° to 21°. The weather models for the Black Sea coast of the Krasnodar Krai region of Russia continue to forecast the potential for heavy rain and severe thunderstorms through August 16.

SOIL SATURATION AND HYDROLOGY

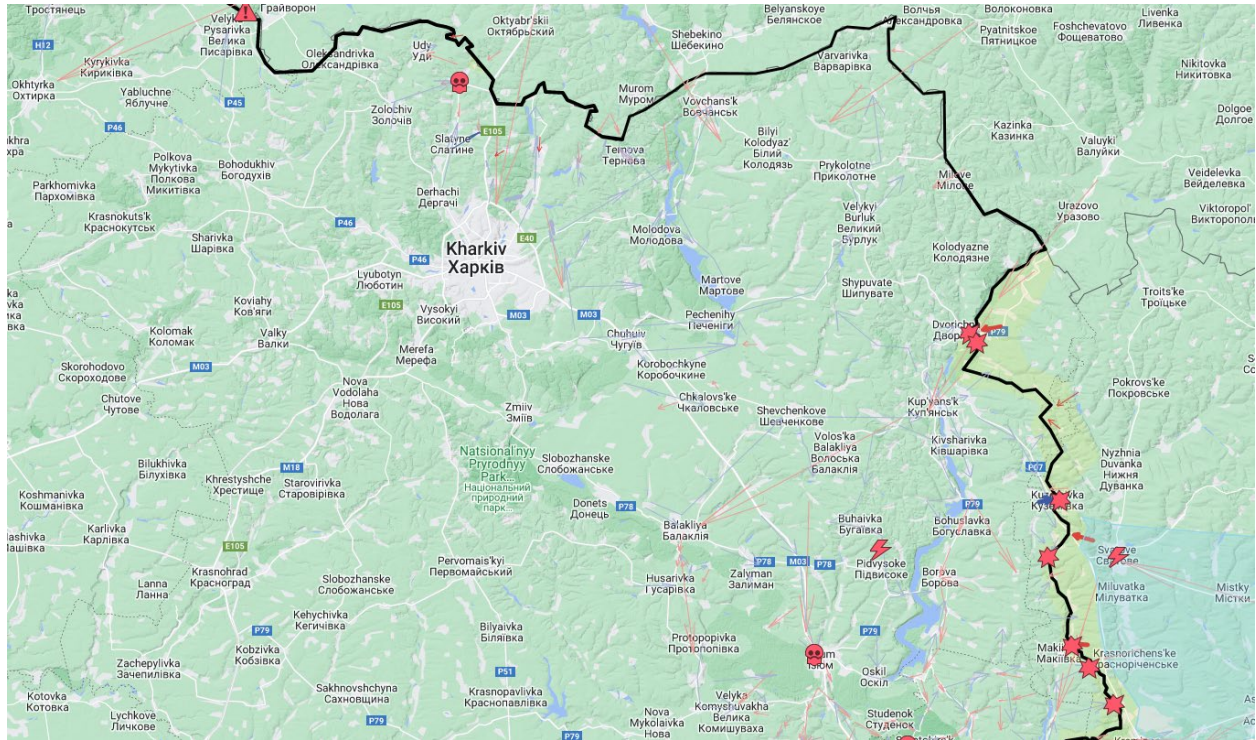


The GFS model for August 18, 2023, predicts soil saturation will be between 5% and 40% across the theater of war. Tractability should not be impacted.

The soil saturation model does not consider the lakebed of the Kakhovka Reservoir. In the theater of war, soil saturation is between 10% to 50% in most areas. A pocket of up to 75% exists in the Siversk and Lysychansk areas of operation (AO). A drying trend is predicted through August 17.



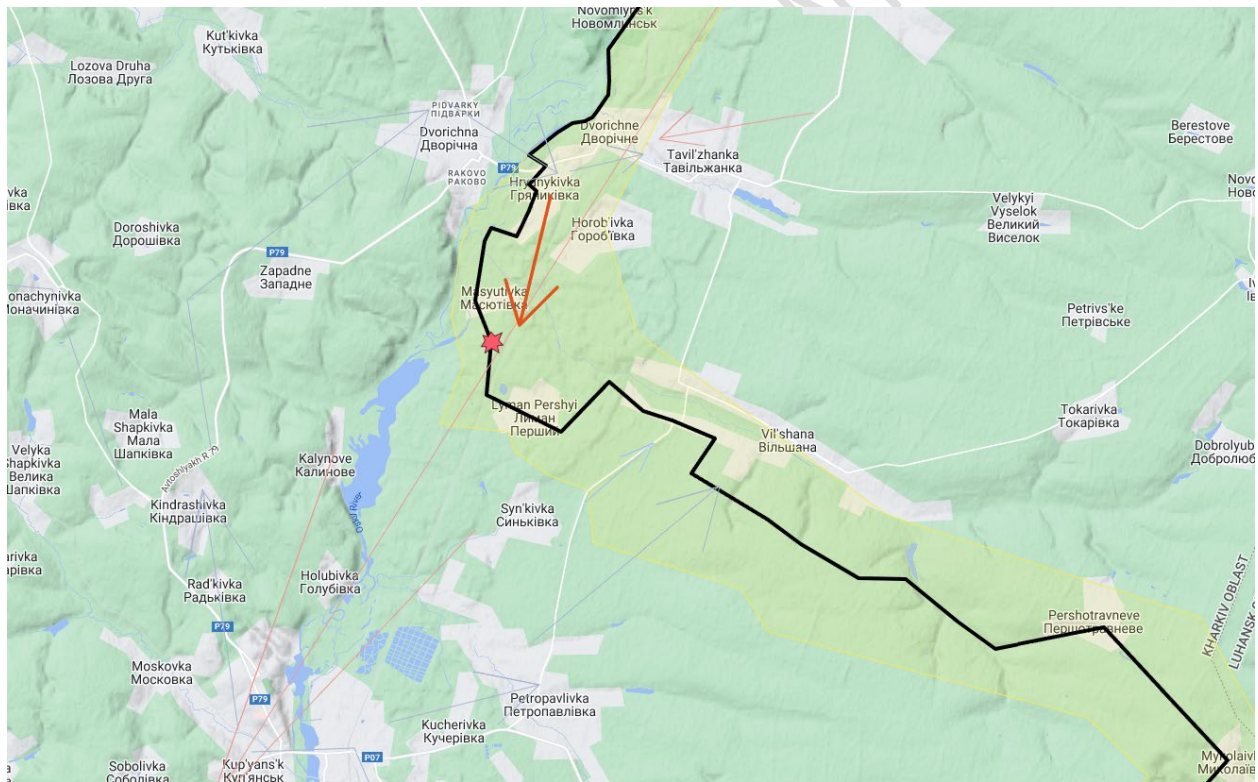
KHARKIV



Russian Objective: Defend against the Ukrainian offensive, maximize casualties, and terrorize Ukrainian civilians near the line of conflict

Ukrainian Objective: Liberate the northeastern corner of the oblast, hold defensive lines in the Dvorichna and Kupyansk Operational Areas, protect civilians and civilian infrastructure

Free Kharkiv/Luhansk: Spokesperson for Operational Command East (OKE), Colonel Serhiy Cherevaty, reported Russian forces fired 599 artillery rounds, mortars, Grad and Smerch rockets, drone-delivered IEDs, and bombs from Dvorichna [Kharkiv] to Bilohorivka [Luhansk] and carried out 16 airstrikes. Only four combat clashes were reported, with Ukrainian and Russian sources describing the fighting as intense but positional.¹



¹ <https://t.me/luhanskaVTSA/12692>

Dvorichna Operational Area

While the situation remains difficult, it is starting to appear that Ukrainian forces are stabilizing defensive lines. We aren't receiving reports of Russian troops penetrating through Ukrainian defensive positions. However, Russia and Ukraine are trading control of the same defensive positions in positional fighting.

Fighting continued west of [Lyman Pershi](#), north of [Synkivika](#), and south of [Vilshana](#).^{2 3 4 5} During today's press briefing, the Ukrainian Military Media Center indicated that Ukrainian national guard forces performed well at Vilshana.

The mandatory evacuation of civilians from 37 settlements west of the Oskil River from Kupyansk to the Russian border was announced, as well as the settlements surrounding Kupyansk east of the river. Andriy Kanashevych, the acting head of the Kupyansk District Military Administration, issued the order. The decision was made because Russian forces have dramatically increased

² <https://t.me/zloyodessit/19814>

³ https://t.me/mod_russia/29121 [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]

⁴ <https://t.me/militarymediacenter/2831>

⁵ <https://t.me/rybar/50608>



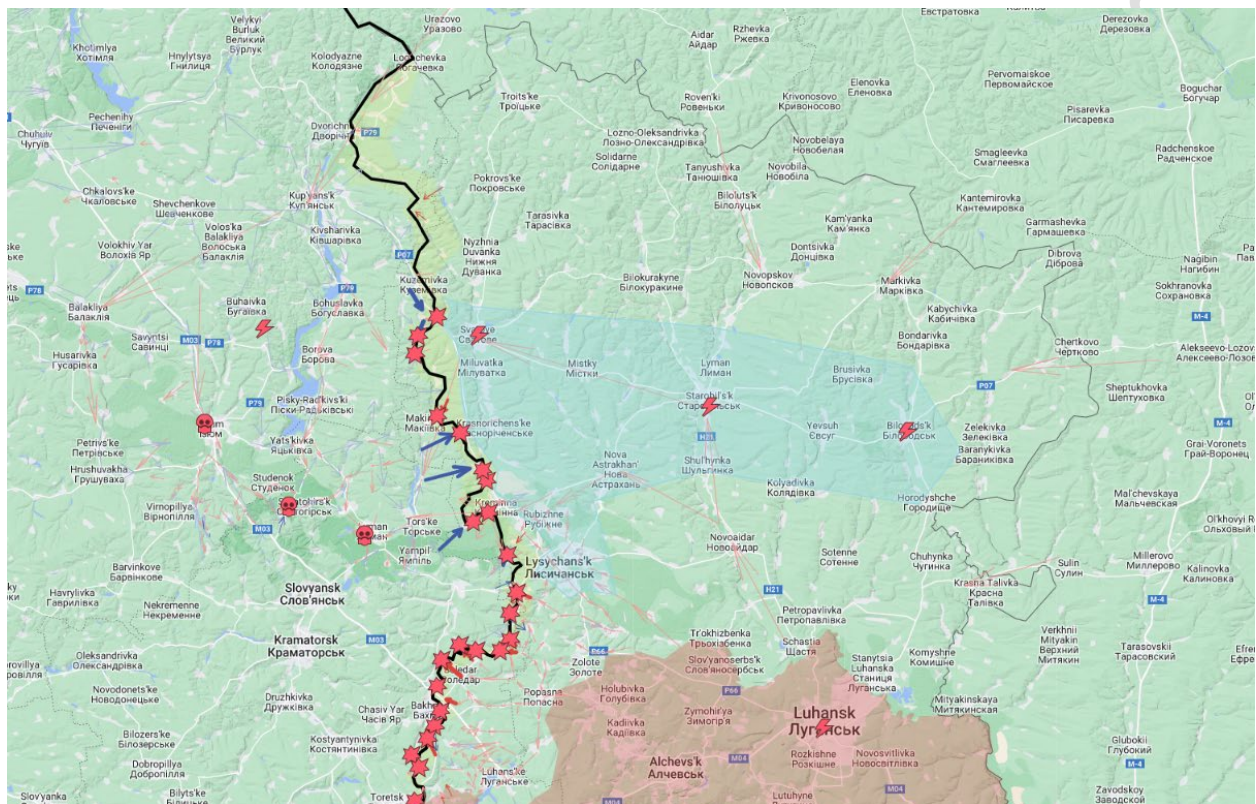
the number of shellings and airstrikes targeting civilians in the last four to six weeks.⁶

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⁶ <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/news/2023/08/10/7414991/>

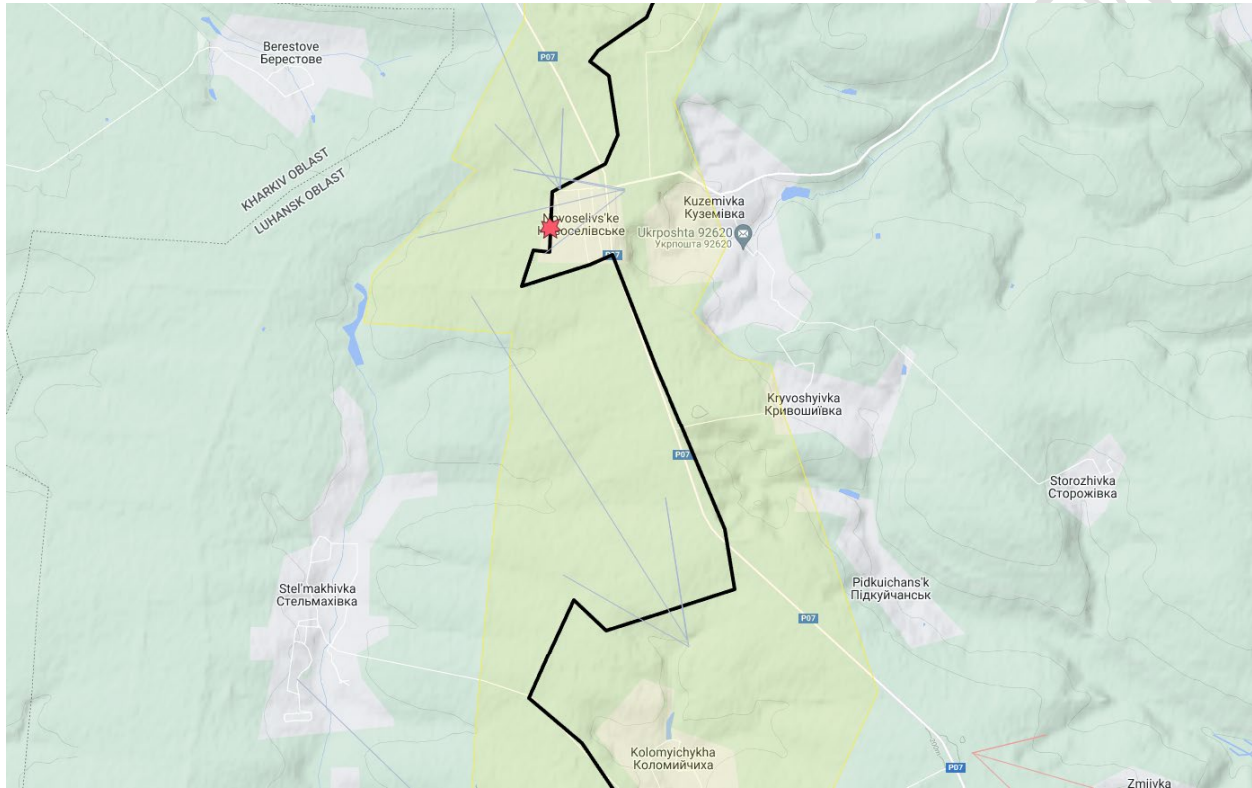
DONBAS REGION

LUHANSK



Russian Objective: Defend against the Ukrainian offensive, maximize casualties, control insurgent activity, set conditions to capture the rest of the region, and support September 2023 elections

Ukrainian Objective: Break Russian defensive lines, advance on Svatove, Kreminna, and Lysychansk, and support insurgents



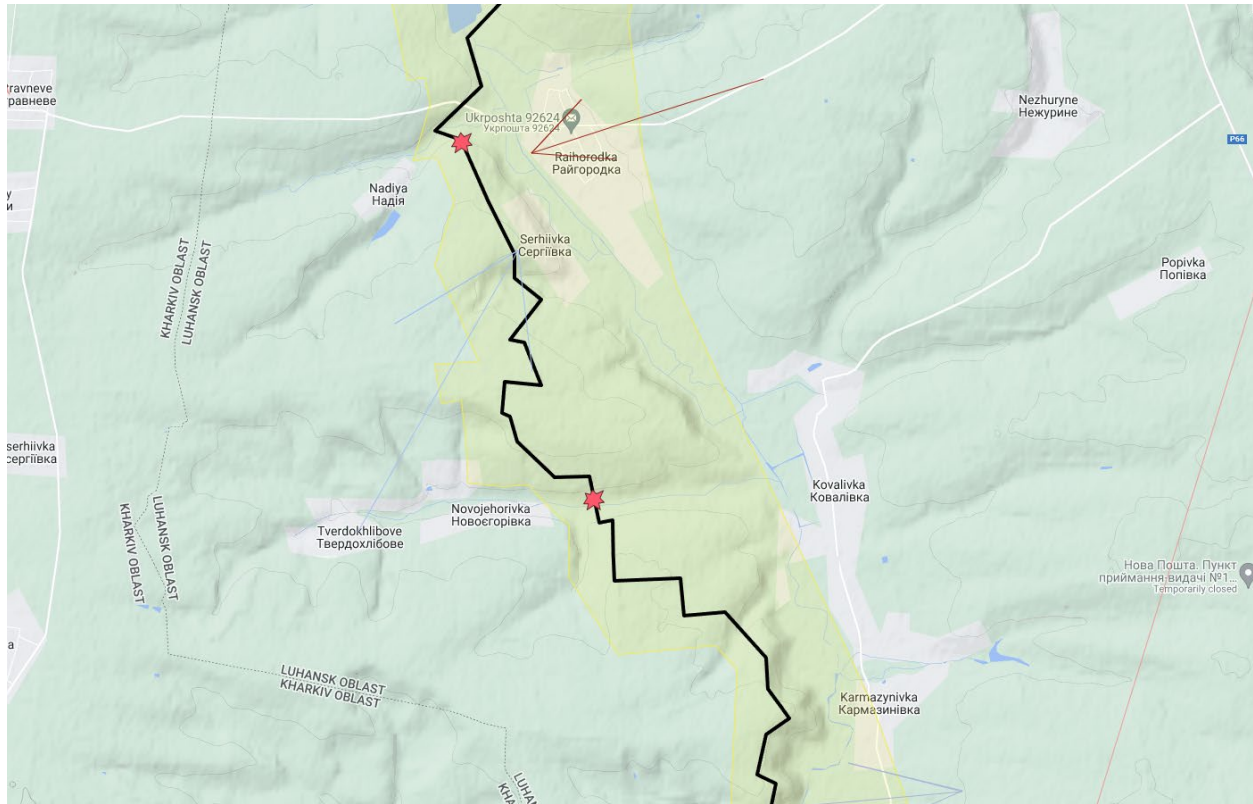
Svatove Operational Area

Mutual fighting was reported both in and south of [Novoselivske](#), which one Ukrainian military analyst described as an unoccupied gray zone.^{7 8 9}

⁷ <https://t.me/landforcesofukraine/10979>

⁸ https://t.me/mod_russia/29121 [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]

⁹ <https://t.me/zloyodessit/19814>

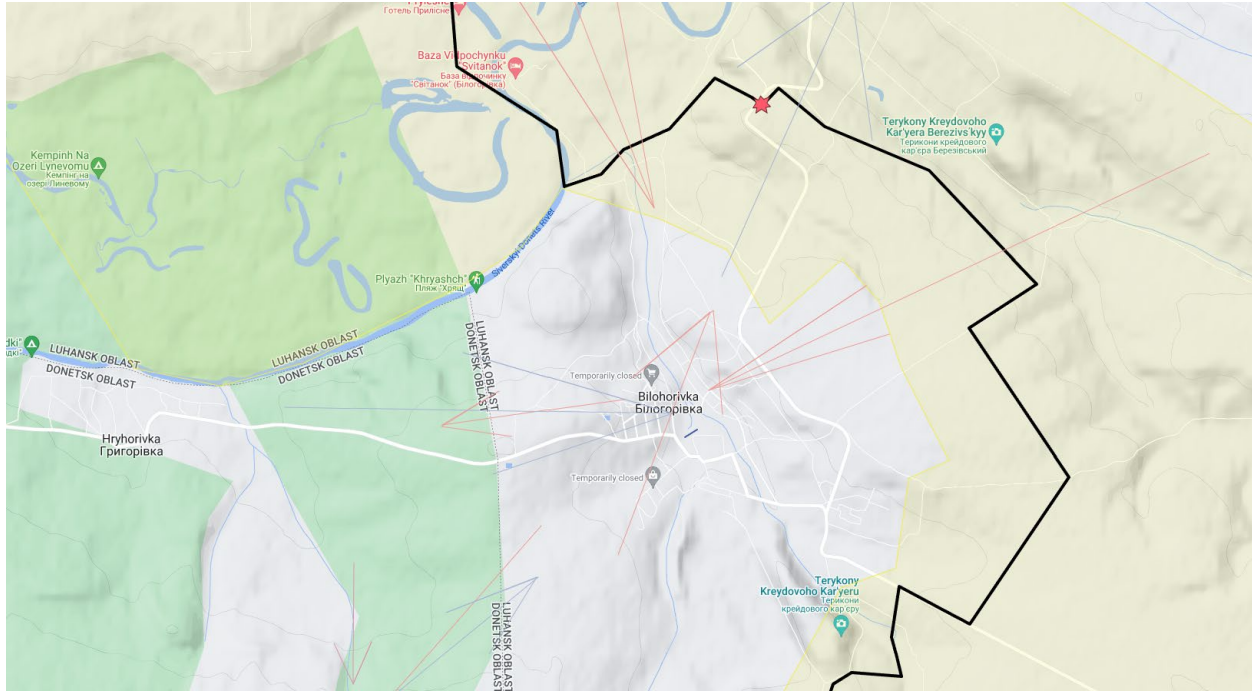


Russian forces attacked in the direction of [Nadiya](#), likely trying to relieve the building pressure on their shrinking bridgehead over the Zherebets River.¹⁰ The attack was unsuccessful.¹¹

¹⁰

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?mid=1z8gA8JdncNKT4uSkbnmVvB9yrbyBDNg&ll=49.367437726779116%2C37.95170662590265&z=14>

¹¹ <https://t.me/landforcesofukraine/10979>

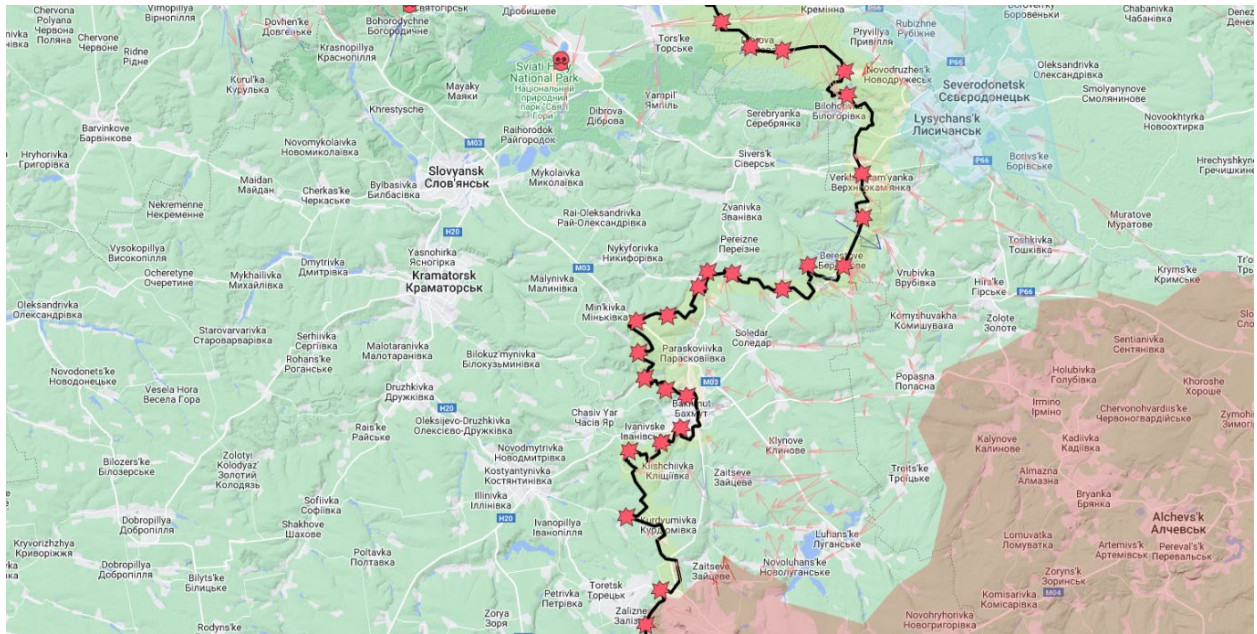


Lysychansk Operational Area

Every day at least one source reports there is fighting near [Bilohorivka](#) [Luhansk], and today it was the Russian Ministry of Defense.¹²

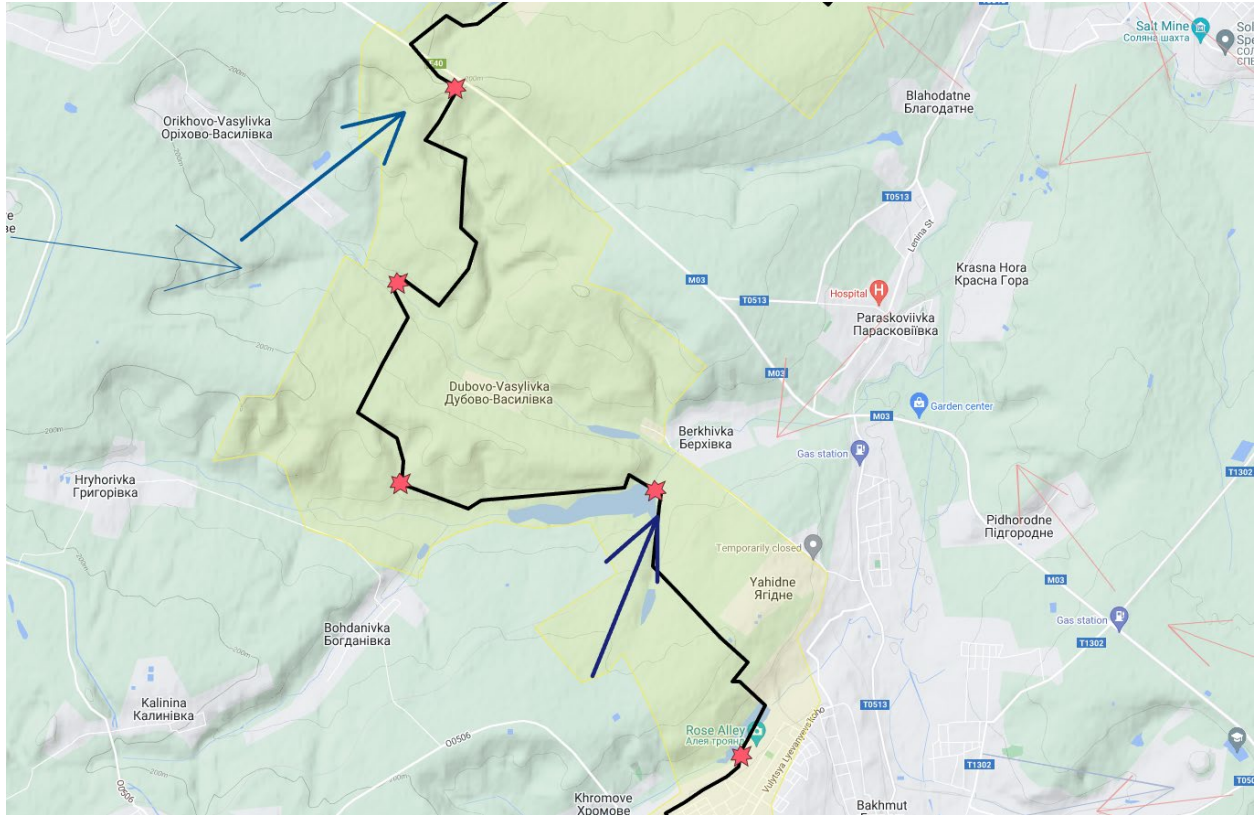
¹² https://t.me/mod_russia/29121 [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]

NORTHEAST DONETSK



Russian Objective: Complete the capture of Bakhmut, set conditions to attack Kramatorsk, Slovyansk, and Siversk, and capture the entire region, set conditions for September 2023 elections

Ukrainian Objective: Defend Siversk and Bakhmut, collapse the Russian flanks while maximizing casualties, draw Russian reserves into the Bakhmut and Soledar operational areas, push into the Luhansk oblast, and minimize civilian casualties

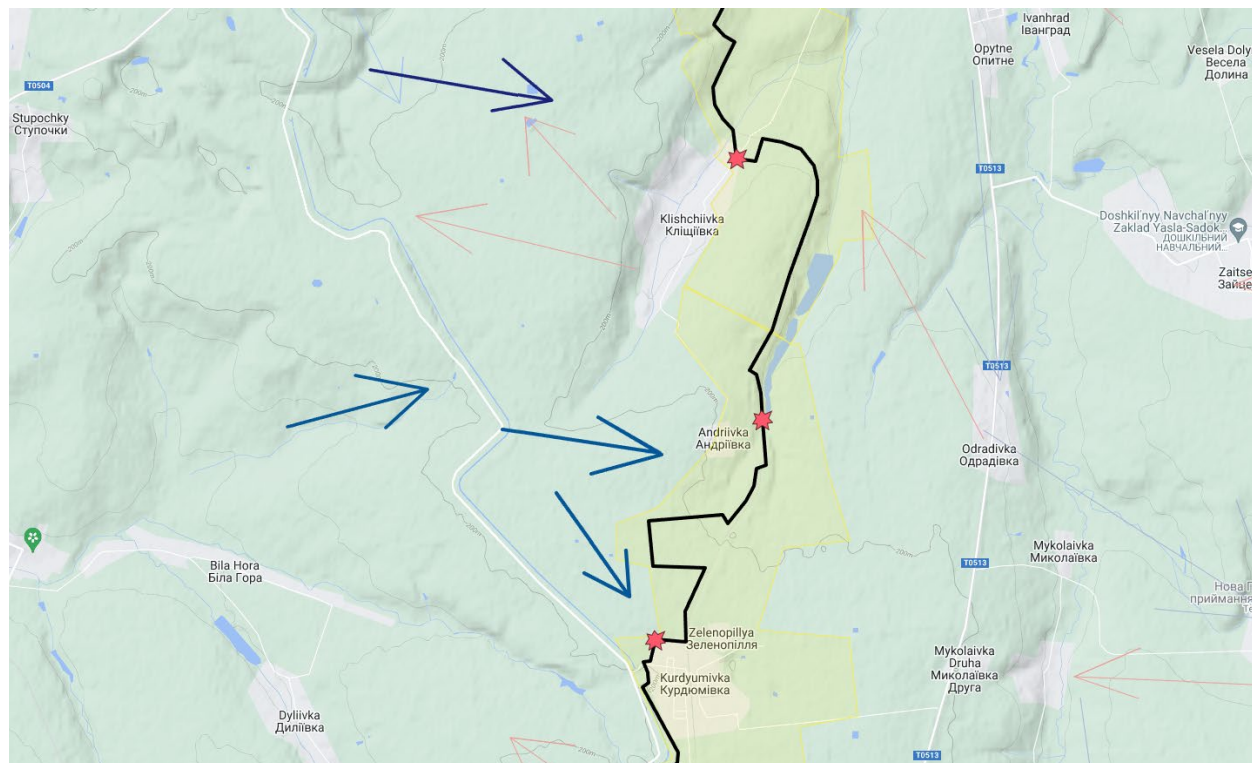


Bakhmut Operational Area

The General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine reported that Russian troops tried to advance in the direction of [Bohdanivka](#), suffered losses, and returned to their defensive positions.¹³ RMOD reported that Ukrainian forces were on the offensive in the area of [Bakhmut](#) but did not specify if it was near Rose Alley, Khromove, Litak, or the Gardens.¹⁴

¹³ <https://t.me/landforcesofukraine/10979>

¹⁴ https://t.me/mod_russia/29121 [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]

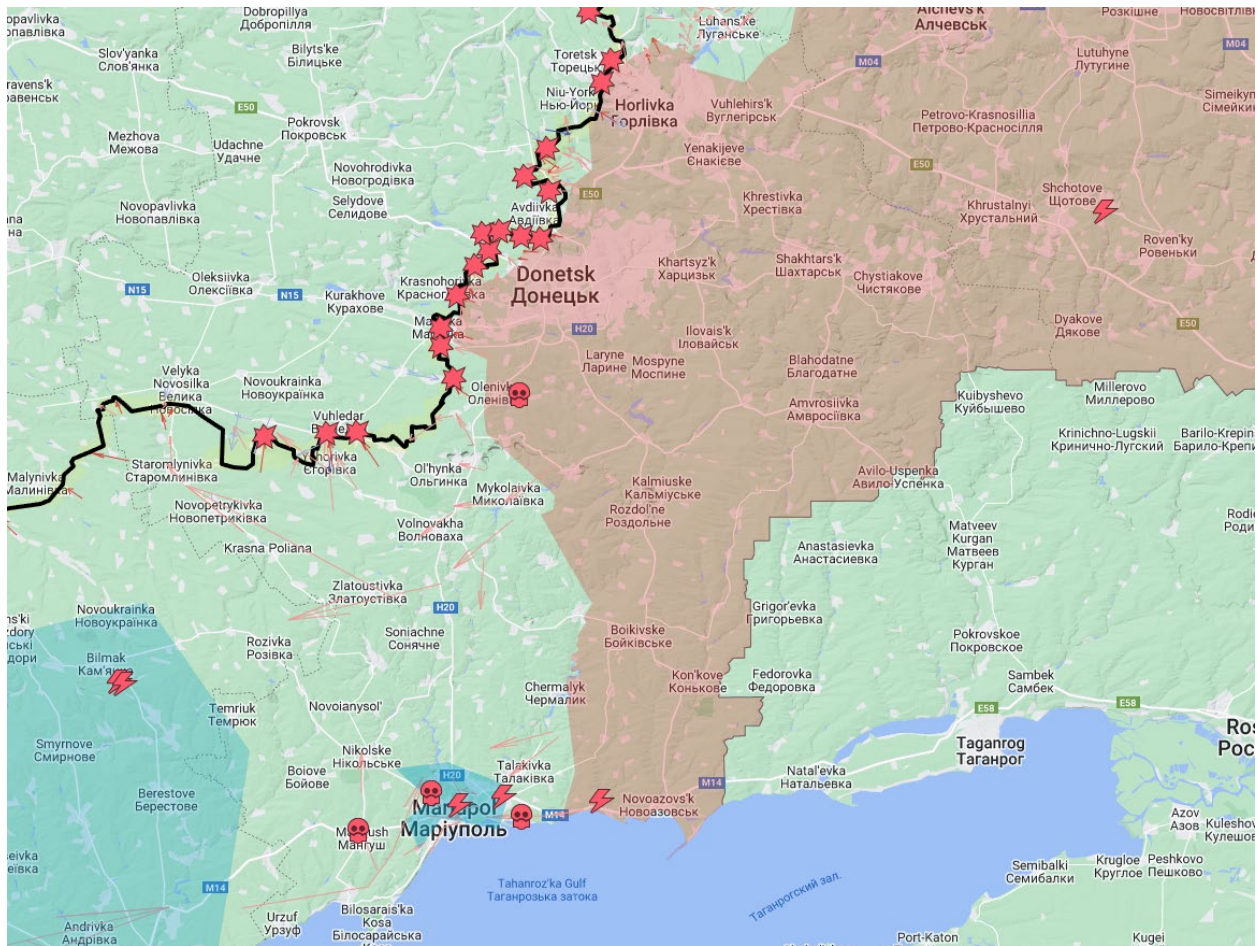


Klishchiivka Operational Area

Deputy Minister of Defense for Ukraine, Hanna Maliar, reported that Ukrainian forces were back on the offensive in [Klishchiivka](#) and on the edges of [Andriivka](#) and [Kurdyumivka](#).¹⁵

¹⁵ <https://t.me/annamaliar/1003>

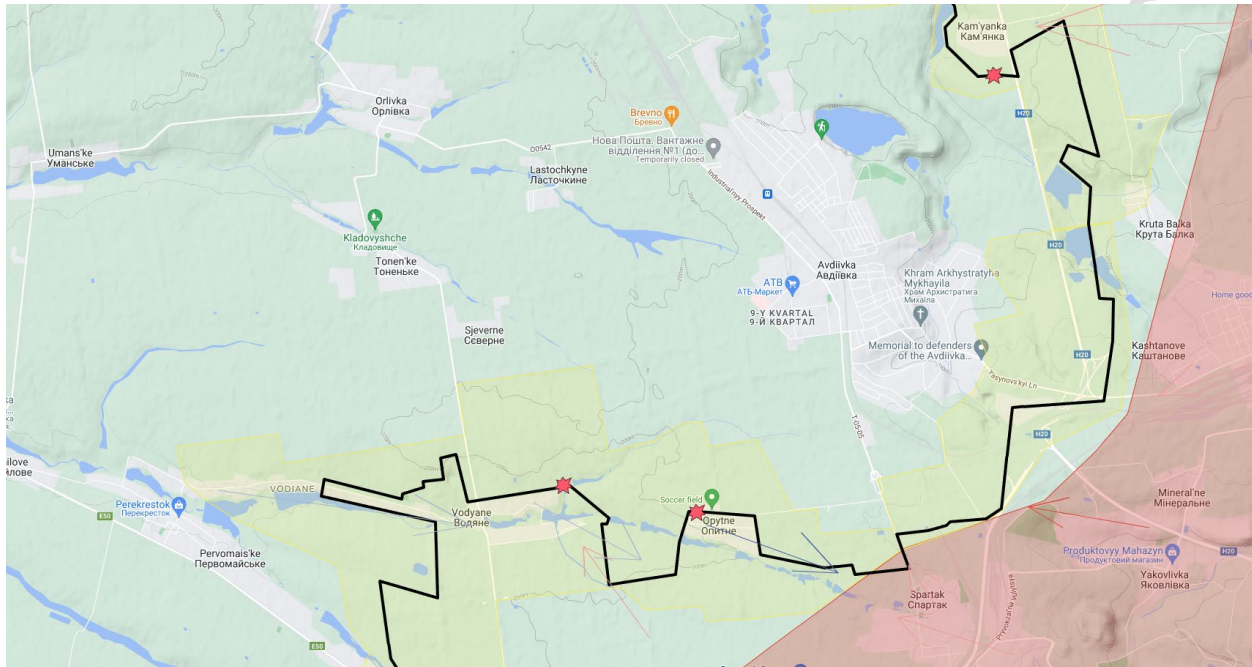
SOUTHWESTERN DONETSK



Russian Objective: Defend against the Ukrainian offensive, maximize casualties, set conditions for September 2023 elections, capture the remainder of the oblast

Ukrainian Objective: Set conditions for larger offensive operations, find and exploit Russian defensive weaknesses,

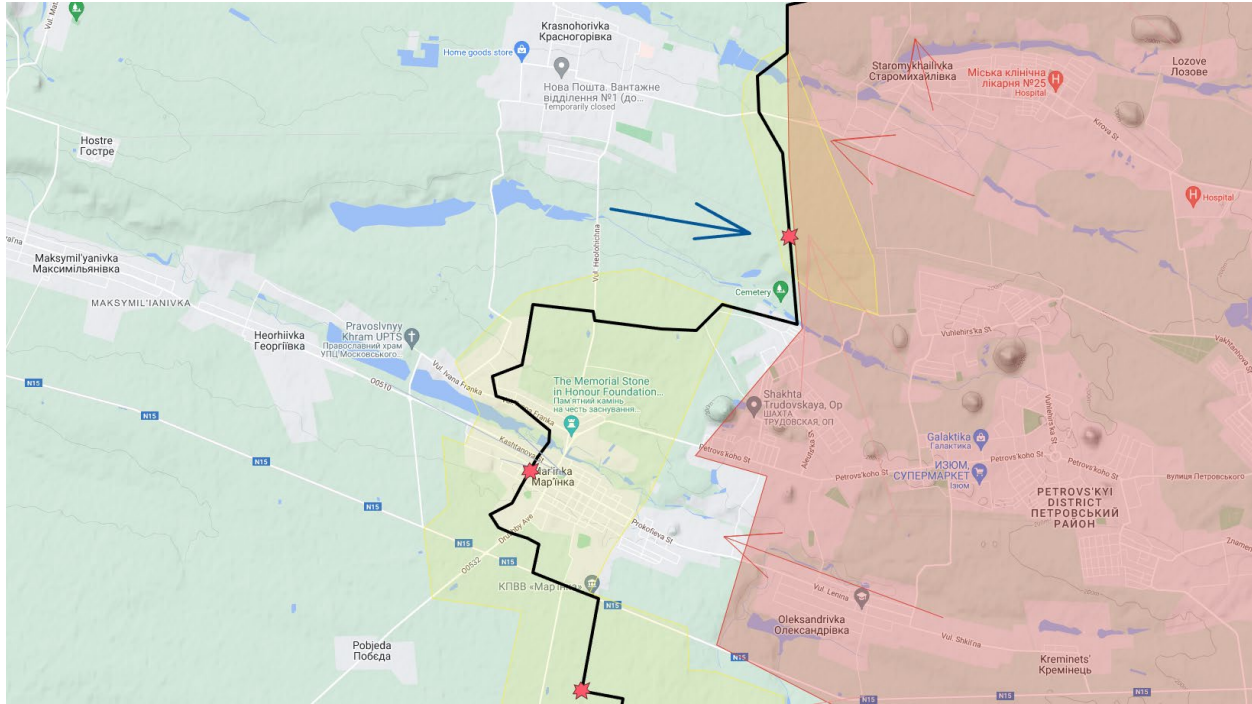
destroy troop concentrations and command and control sites, interdict supplies, and disrupt logistics



Avdiivka Operational Area

The operational tempo remains low, and thunderstorms in Donetsk limited ground attacks. Limited Russian offensive operations continued east of [Avdiivka](#) with no change in the situation.¹⁶

¹⁶ <https://t.me/landforcesofukraine/10979>

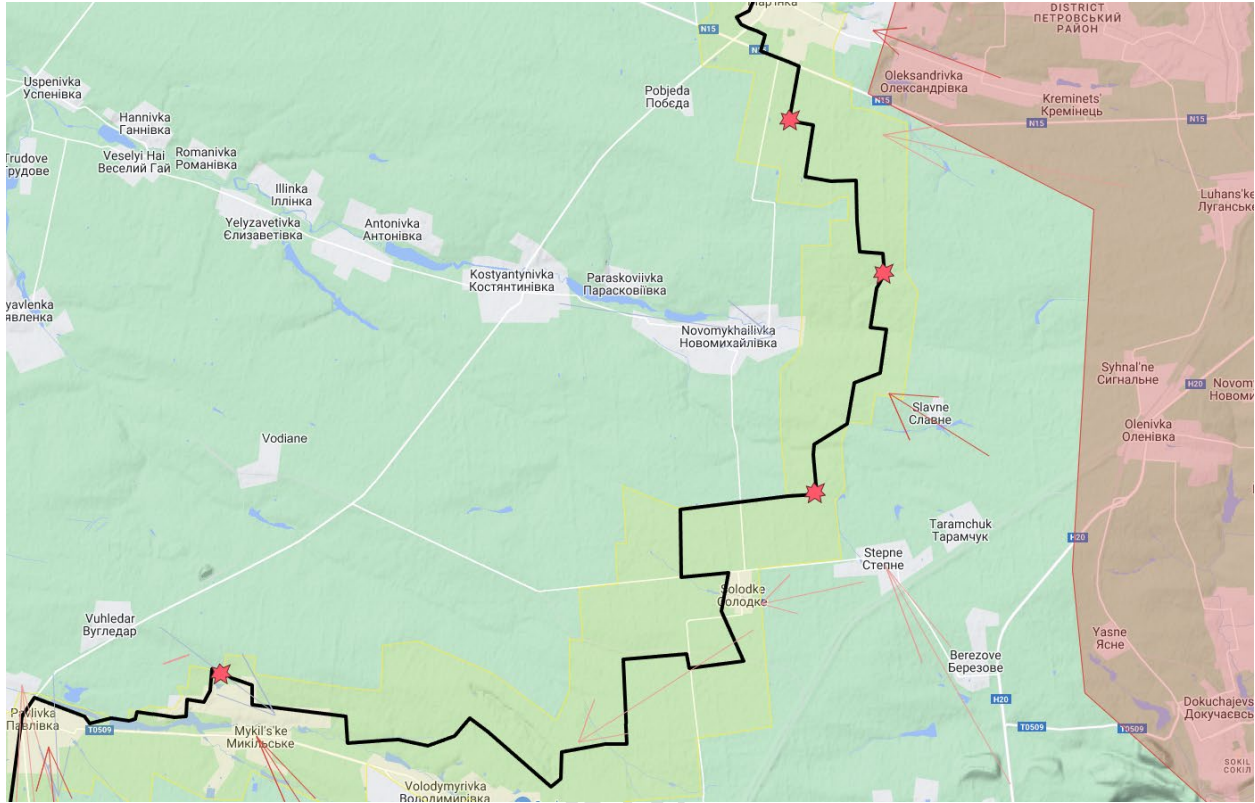


Marinka Operational Area

It's a similar situation in [Marinka](#), where fighting remained positional.^{17 18}

¹⁷ <https://t.me/landforcesofukraine/10979>

¹⁸ <https://t.me/wargonzo/14285>

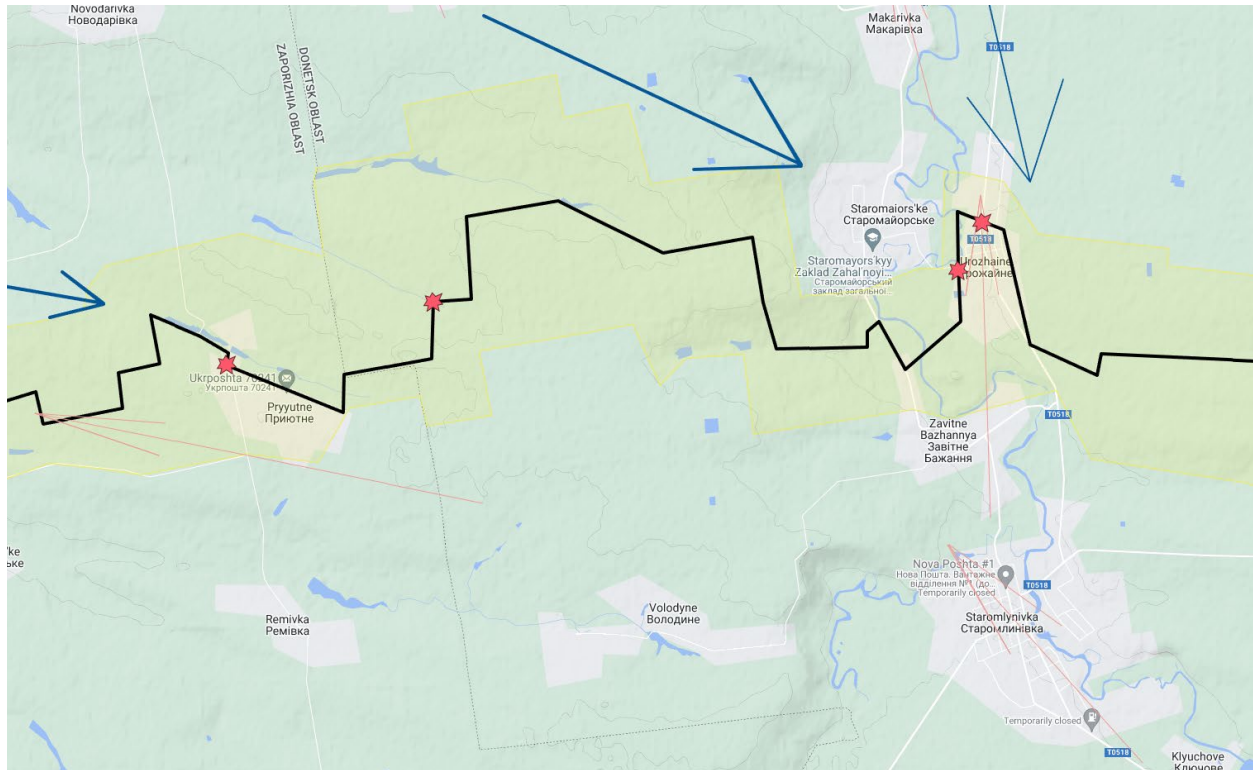


Vuhledar Operational Area

Russian sources claimed there was fighting east of [Novomykhailivka](#).^{19 20}

¹⁹ https://t.me/mod_russia/29121 [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]

²⁰ <https://t.me/wargonzo/14285>



Lyubymivka-Staromlynivka Operational Direction

Fighting continues in [Urozhaine](#) from the north and west, with Ukrainian forces holding Russian troops in an encirclement.^{21 22 23 24} There has been no update from the Russian 11th Separate Motorized Rifle Regiment, 1st Army Corps, formerly the Vostok Brigade, in 36 hours. In the district of [Staromaiorske](#), Russian counterattacks with

²¹ <https://t.me/annamaliar/1003>

²² https://t.me/mod_russia/29121 [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]

²³ <https://t.me/rybar/50608>

²⁴ <https://t.me/wargonzo/14285>

support from the VKS continued.²⁵ Ukrainian forces made additional marginal gains at [Pryyutne](#).²⁶

Occupied Donetsk

Insurgents in Mariupol reported that the number and size of military convoys moving through the city have declined, with convoys comprised of ten or fewer trucks hauling troops and ammunition.²⁷

With elections coming in September, one pundit wrote that the self-declared acting leader of the so-called Donetsk People's Republic (DNR), Denis Pushilin, is about as popular as Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy if he were to run for election in the DNR.

Public water vending stations are starting to appear in the city of Donetsk, where reliable drinking water remains an issue, and grocery stores continue to be accused of price gouging.²⁸ The illegitimate Ministers of Construction and Housing of the DNR said that the utility networks only have 2% to 30% of their useful life left because, since the

²⁵ <https://t.me/landforcesofukraine/10979>

²⁶ <https://t.me/wargonzo/14285>

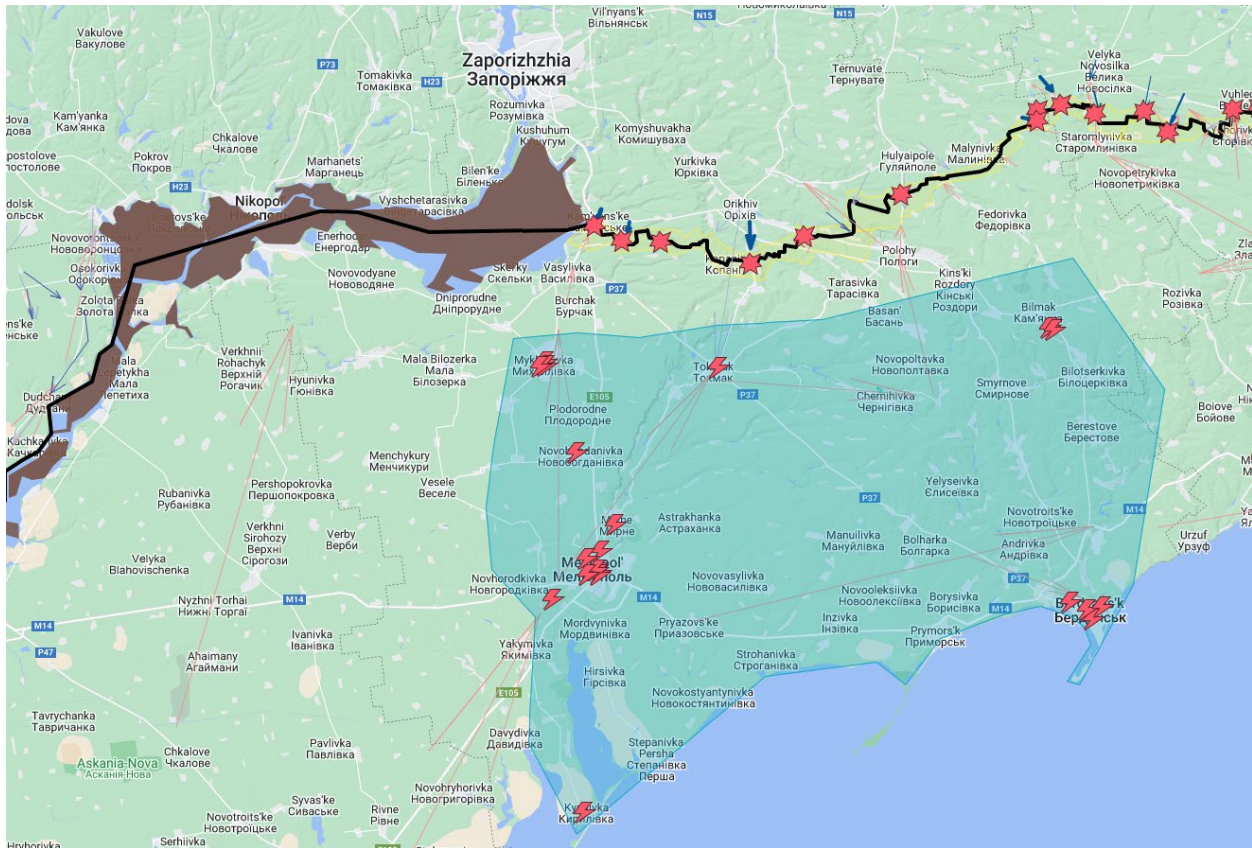
²⁷ <https://t.me/andriyshTime/12443>

²⁸ <https://t.me/itsdonetsk/93619>

occupation, no one has bothered to maintain them. "No one has done major repairs of heat, water, and gas supply networks. Unfortunately, they are in a very worn condition."²⁹

²⁹ <https://t.me/itsdonetsk/93585>

ZAPORIZHIA

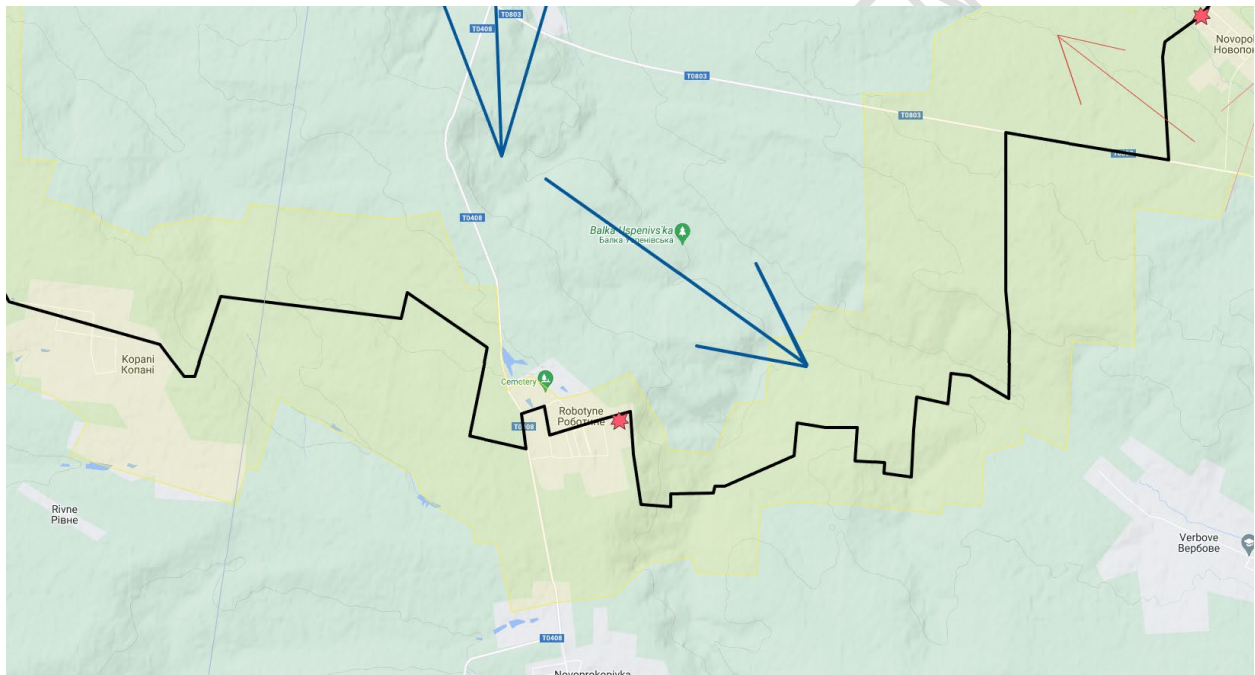


Russian Objective: Defend against the Ukrainian offensive, maximize casualties, set conditions for September 2023 elections, capture the remainder of the oblast, and terrorize Ukrainian civilians with continued attacks

Ukrainian Objective: Exploit weaknesses on the line of conflict, break Russian defensive lines, liberate Russian-occupied areas, and protect civilians

Free Zaporizhzhia

Brigadier General Alexander Tarnavskiy, Commander of the Tavriia Operational and Strategic Group of Forces, reported that Ukrainian forces carried out 1,678 fire missions in eastern Kherson and Zaporizhzhia. That is the largest number reported since Ukrainian ground operations started on June 4.



Orikhiv Operational Area







Ukrainian troops have occupied the northern part of [Robotyne](#), according to an exclusive report in the Wall Street Journal with supporting pictures.³⁰ A week ago, we had specific intelligence that the northern part of the settlement was being heavily shelled in a pattern that fits Russian military doctrine, having us believe that Russian troops had been pushed out of at least part of the settlement. We have coded Robotyne as contested and moved the line of conflict. Fighting between Robotyne and [Verbove](#) continued.

Russian mercenary milblogger Semyon Pegov lamented about the situation in the Orikhiv AO. "The goal is to force the Russian Federation Armed Forces to move tactical reserves from the [rear areas] continuously. For the defending side [*Russia – Ed.*], this creates problems. Especially with the powerful work of enemy artillery."³¹

We have additional intelligence in this area that we cannot share to respect Ukrainian operational security (OPSEC), but we will add the situation for Ukraine is better than publicly reported.

³⁰ https://twitter.com/marson_jr/status/1689607253366599680

³¹ <https://t.me/wargonzo/14285>

A Russian  [Iskander-K ballistic cruise missile](#) struck the parking lot in front of the Reykartz Hotel in Zaporizhzhia, used by the United Nations and the International Atomic Energy Agency to house their staff.³² Additionally, a day camp for children 6 to 13 years old runs at the property. The  [hotel, area buildings, and a hospital](#) were damaged in the attack, which killed one and wounded 16, including four children.^{33 34 35} One video caught the moment of the strike at a nearby park and farmer's market. The audio is loud, and some people may find the content disturbing. You can watch the video by     [clicking here](#).³⁶

Denise Brown, the UN humanitarian coordinator for Ukraine, released a statement condemning the attack. "I am appalled by the news that a hotel frequently used by United Nations personnel and our colleagues from NGOs supporting people affected by the war has been hit by a Russian strike in Zaporizhzhia shortly ago. It is utterly inadmissible. I have stayed in this hotel every single time I visited Zaporizhzhia. My team uses it as their base for their

³² https://t.me/ukrarmed_forces/5843

³³ <https://t.me/operativnoZSU/>

³⁴ <https://t.me/operativnoZSU/109492>

³⁵ <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/news/2023/08/11/7415106/>

³⁶ <https://twitter.com/i/status/1689704720393269248>

frequent travels to the city. It was the UN base for the operation to evacuate civilians from the Azovstal plant in Mariupol in May last year. The number of indiscriminate attacks hitting civilian infrastructure, killing and injuring civilians, have reached unimaginable levels – these attacks violate international humanitarian law. In the name of humanity, I call on the Russian Federation to comply with their obligations under international humanitarian law and immediately stop indiscriminate attacks on Ukraine."

Editor's Note: *Going to be awkward for Vasily Nebenzya, the permanent United Nations representative for Russia, to explain how the hotel was a base for foreign mercenaries, NATO troops, and a cabal of generals when the UN stays at the property.*

Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant

There was a minor technical incident at the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant. After bringing Reactor 4 to a hot shutdown state, a stream leak was discovered in Steam Generator No. 3, forcing Rosatom to move Reactor 4 to cold shutdown and prepare Reactor 6 to go to hot shutdown. Reactor 5 is closed as it undergoes critical maintenance.³⁷

³⁷ [International Atomic Energy Agency](#)

There has not been a release of steam nor any radiation leaks inside or outside the plant.

Additionally, the 750 kilovolt (kV) power line that supplies ZNPP was disconnected twice on August 9 and remained disconnected on August 10.³⁸ These disconnections mean that ZNPP has had to rely on its only remaining off-site power line, the 330 kV backup line, to supply the required electricity to perform safety functions such as pumping cooling water for the plant. There was no total loss of off-site power, and there was no need to use the emergency diesel generators," IAEA Director General Rafael Grossi said.

On August 8, IAEA inspectors visited the Unit 2 main control room, emergency control room, and other safety-related rooms. They did not observe any mines or unusual objects in these areas, but in the turbine hall, the team noted the presence of several military trucks parked in an area reserved for vehicle maintenance. The inspectors noted that the mines first observed on July 23 had not been removed. Rosatom continues to block access to the roofs of Reactors and Turbine Halls 1, 2, 5, and 6.

³⁸ <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/news/2023/08/10/7414971/>

BLACK SEA, CRIMEA, MYKOLAIV, AND ODESA REGION

Black Sea

Operational Command South (OKS) reported that five vessels of the Black Sea Fleet were on patrol, including one submarine capable of launching up to four Kalibr cruise missiles.³⁹ Insurgents reported a second submarine left the port of Sevastopol during the day, adding the potential to launch four more missiles.⁴⁰

Ukraine announced that temporary corridors for merchant ships going to and from the ports of Ukraine had been opened. The routes will first be used for ships that want to exit the ports of Chornomorsk, Odesa, and Pivdenny, where some vessels have been stranded since February 24, 2022. The Ukrainian Navy added that despite the creation of the corridors, a military threat and sea mines from the Russian Federation are possible through the routes.⁴¹

³⁹ <https://t.me/Crimeanwind/39124>

⁴⁰ <https://t.me/Crimeanwind/39158>

⁴¹ <https://t.me/operativnoZSU/109429>

Occupied Crimea

The Head of the Association of Freight Carriers and Freight Forwarders of Crimea said that repairs to the Chongar Bridge would take another seven to ten days without citing a source.⁴² Satellite images show that Russia has reestablished the pontoon bridge for military vehicles.⁴³

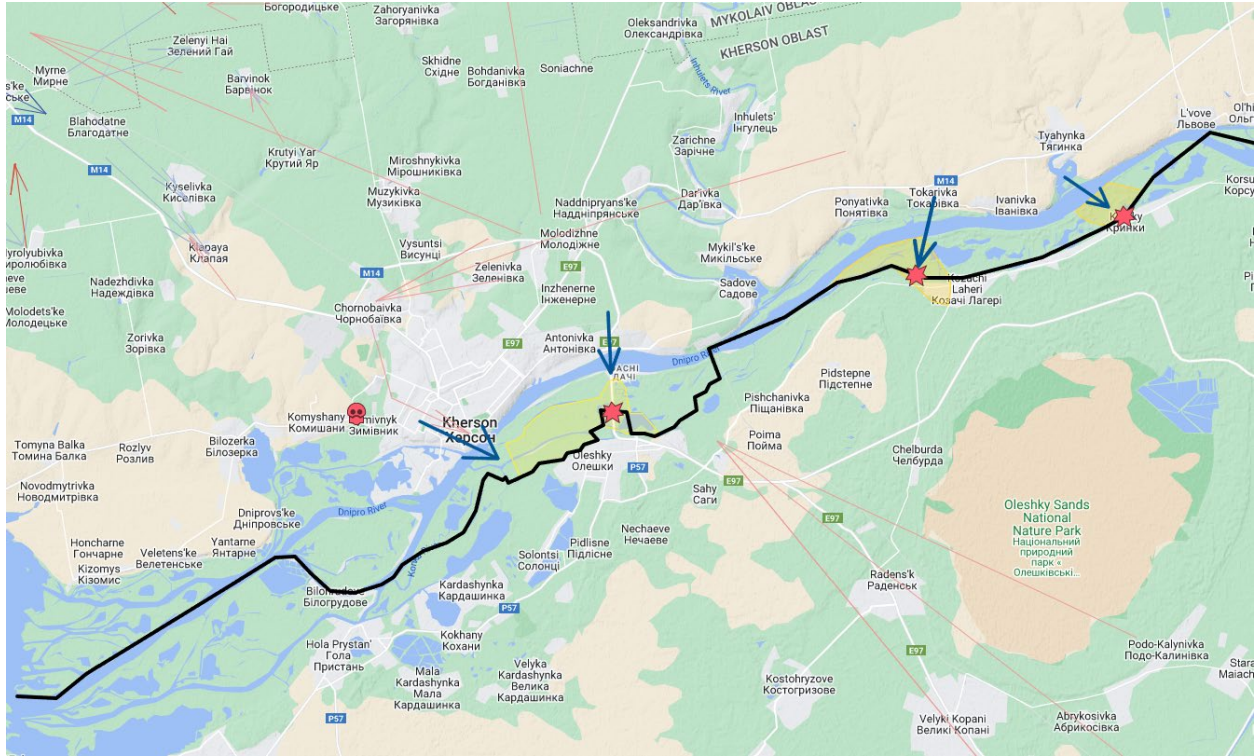
WESTERN AND CENTRAL UKRAINE

Russian Objective: Launch terror attacks on civilians and civilian infrastructure to break morale

Ukrainian Objective: Deter attacks, and protect civilian lives

⁴² <https://t.me/itsdonetsk/93518>

⁴³ <https://t.me/Crimeanwind/39131>



Free Kherson

There weren't any significant developments reported.

NORTHERN AND NORTHEASTERN UKRAINE

Russian Objective: Lock Ukrainian military resources into place and launch terror attacks on civilians in an attempt to break morale

Ukrainian Objective: Complete the liberation of the Kharkiv oblast, maintain the integrity of the international border, deter attacks, and protect civilian lives

Ukrainian air defenses in the Kyiv region intercepted seven Shahed-136 UAVs. There were no reports of significant damage.⁴⁴

⁴⁴ <https://t.me/operativnoZSU/109382>

RUSSIAN FRONT

Russian Objective: Stabilize government control and civil order, prevent further insurrection, repel Russian partisan attacks, secure the state border

Ukrainian-Backed Russian Partisan Objective: Motivate other Russians to fight against the Putin regime, accelerate the downfall of the Russian government, foment civil unrest

Moscow

The military enlistment office in Zaraysk was firebombed, but the attacker reportedly didn't light the Molotov cocktail before they threw it.⁴⁵

In Serhiyiv Posad, the search for survivors and bodies continued at the Zagorsk Optical and Mechanical Plant.⁴⁶ Searchers had found 48 "body fragments" believed to be the remains of eight to ten people still missing.

⁴⁵ <https://t.me/bazabazon/20357>

⁴⁶ <https://t.me/bazabazon/20350>

BELARUSIAN FRONT

Poland will deploy about 10,000 troops on the border with Belarus, Defense Minister Mariusz Blaszczak said, due to the hostile actions of Belarus and an increase in the number of migrants from the Middle East and Africa trying to cross the border.⁴⁷

In a sign of growing tension, Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs of Poland Maciej Wonsik threatened to seal the border. "Poland will close all border crossings with Belarus, in particular railway ones, if the provocations of the regime of self-proclaimed President Lukashenka continue."⁴⁸

There was a fire at the gasoline production facility at the Mozyr Oil Refinery in Belarus. The cause of the fire is unknown. A week ago, the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) warned that Russia wanted to draw Belarus into war and was preparing a provocation at the refinery. This facility is infamous for numerous safety violations and historically

⁴⁷ <https://t.me/operativnoZSU/109428>

⁴⁸ <https://t.me/operativnoZSU/109412>

has experienced at least one significant industrial accident a year since 2019.⁴⁹

THEATERWIDE

During his evening address, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said, "We continue to prepare the Ukrainian Doctrine, a thorough text that will serve as a basis for the transformation of our country. We do not forget our main goal – to win the war and not to lose the country. Ukraine must realize its historic chance for development gained by the courage of our people – our entire nation. We are also preparing more defense packages for our warriors and more defense systems for the entire Ukrainian society, including air defense systems."⁵⁰

During a round table discussion for the media in Kyiv, military expert Petro Chernyk said that Russia has run out of Kh-22 antiship cruise missiles, which have the largest conventional warhead in the Russian arsenal – 960 kilograms.⁵¹ The Kh-22 was first produced in 1962, with production ending in the 1980s. The missile underwent

⁴⁹ <https://t.me/The3rdForceUA/19048>

⁵⁰ https://t.me/V_Zelenskiy_official/7320

⁵¹ <https://t.me/militarymediacenter/2825>

numerous upgrades, with up to 1,000 produced. Due to the corrosive liquid fuels the missile uses for the rocket motor, storage has been an issue. Chernyk added that Russia can produce a combination of 60 to 80 Kalibr, Kh-101, and Kh-47 missiles a month.

Azerbaijan has announced an aid package for Ukraine, including demining equipment, training for explosive ordnance disposal engineers, medical and psychological rehabilitation for injured children and soldiers, support in the energy sector, and post-war reconstruction.⁵²

The Defense Minister of Estonia, Hanno Pevkur, announced that the nation would provide additional small arms and ammunition to Ukraine. "Ukraine must be supported against Russia's long-term aggression. We have once again found a way that Estonia can lend a helping hand."⁵³

There is a lot of chatter about Germany providing Taurus air-to-surface cruise missiles to Ukraine, with clear signs from Berlin that momentum is building. Germany has a limited supply of missiles unrelated to British Storm Shadow and French SCALP-EG but are very similar. With a

⁵² <https://t.me/operativnoZSU/109486>

⁵³ <https://t.me/DPSUkr/12837>

range of up to 500 kilometers, it would allow Ukraine to strike anywhere in Crimea, including the Kerch (Crimean) Bridge. It is reported that Germany is making delivery of Taurus contingent to the United States, providing Ukraine with ATACMS short-range ballistic missiles.⁵⁴

In an interview with the Washington Post, Polish President Andrzej Duda believes that Ukraine cannot change the balance of the war in its favor with its current arsenal. "The question is: Does Ukraine have enough weapons to change the balance of the war and get the upper hand? And the answer is probably no. They probably do not have enough weapons. And we know this by the fact that they're not currently able to carry out a very decisive counteroffensive against the Russian military. To make a long story short, they need more assistance."⁵⁵

The table for equipment losses was **updated on August 6, 2023**, and includes the losses suffered during the Prigozhin Insurrection of June 23 – 24.

⁵⁴ <https://t.me/operativnoZSU/109463>

⁵⁵ <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/news/2023/08/10/7415078/>

RUSSIA VS. UKRAINE HEAVY EQUIPMENT LOSSES

Russian and Ukrainian visually confirmed heavy equipment losses sourced from the [Oryx Database](#) from February 24, 2022, to August 6, 2023. 11,570 Russian (including [Chef's Rebellion](#)) vs. 4,100 Ukrainian

Equipment	Russian Losses	Ukrainian Losses	Ratio	Change
Main Battle Tanks	2059	256	8.04:1	↓
Medium Duty Tanks	144	346	0.42:1	—
Armored fighting Vehicles	939	305	3.08:1	—
Infantry Fighting Vehicles	2622	682	3.84:1	↓
Armored Personnel Carriers	341	316	1.08:1	—
MRAPs	46	134	0.34:1	—
Infantry Mobility Vehicles	199	348	0.57:1	—
Command and Communications Vehicles	246	16	15.38:1	↑
Engineering Vehicles	329	74	4.45:1	↓
Towed Artillery	269	144	1.87:1	—
Self-Propelled Howitzers/Mortars	475	193	2.46:1	↓
MLRS	253	50	5.06:1	↑
SAMs	142	119	1.19:1	—
Mobile Radars	40	70	0.57:1	—
EW/ECW	49	4	12.25:1	↑
Winged Aircraft	85	69	1.23:1	—
Helicopters	107	32	3.34:1	↓
Naval Vessels	13	26	0.50:1	↑

RUSSIAN MOBILIZATION, MOBIKS, AND MIR

In Rostov-on-Don, after a medical flight from Moscow was canceled, wounded Russian soldiers waiting for medical evacuation (MEDIVAC) were left lying on the tarmac for 15 hours without shelter, food, or water on a 33 C day.⁵⁶

WAR CRIMES AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Russia shelled a humanitarian aid station in Bilozerka while people waited in a queue, wounding six, with all victims hospitalized.⁵⁷

GEOPOLITICS

There weren't any major developments.

ECONOMIC

The exchange rate was 98 roubles to 1 US dollar.

⁵⁶ https://t.me/ukrarmed_forces/5839

⁵⁷ <https://t.me/operativnoZSU/109413>

Notes on Sourcing Information


Malcontent News uses a wide range of sources to create our daily Situation Report, the foundation for the Russian-Ukraine War Report Podcast. There are some notable sources that we frequently use and others that we don't. The most common sources currently, or in the past, we have used for the Theater of War section of the Situation Report include the following.


⚠️ **Russian Ministry of Defense Morning Report:** We use the RMOD Morning Report to identify combat reports, shelling locations, and territorial control change claims. We do not consider claims of Ukrainian troops killed, equipment destroyed, or military resources destroyed valid without videos and pictures that can be confirmed by date, time, weather, and geolocation, or third-party confirmation from recognized Western news outlets or trusted Ukrainian sources.


⚠️ **Rybar:** We consider Rybar a mercenary organization because they are staffed by former Russian Ministry of Defense public relations officers who actively provide target information to the Russian military. Their operational budget is \$20,000 a month, while they claim they receive no government funding. We use their reports and maps to identify combat reports, territorial control change claims, and troop movement reports. We do not use claims of Ukrainian troops killed, equipment destroyed, or military resources destroyed because of a documented and historical pattern of producing fabrications. They frequently engage in blatant misinformation and disinformation and consistently deny all Russian war crimes.


⚠️ **War Gonzo:** We consider War Gonzo a mercenary organization because their employees have recorded themselves actively engaging in direct combat, specifically in Marinka. Recently, War Gonzo admitted in their daily report to leveraging the information from the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. They intermix combat reports with their own on a 24-hour delay. We use their reports for **unique claims** about combat, territorial control change claims, and troop movement reports. Although the War


Gonzo daily reports are moderately accurate, they occasionally engage in blatant disinformation and misinformation.

 **Readovka:** We consider Readovka to be a Kremlin-aligned propagandist organization. Their daily reports are a word-for-word repeat of the RMOD Morning Report and provide no value to our analysis. They occasionally provide credible information through videos and pictures that can be confirmed by date, time, weather, and geolocation.

 **Igor "Girkin" Strelkov:** We consider Strelkov to be a convicted war criminal who is highly informed, specifically about the situation in the Donbas. We use his combat reports, territorial control change claims, and troop movement information. In the Donbas, we consider his reports to be highly accurate. The fidelity of information he provides in Zaporizhia, Kherson, and Kharkiv appears to come from other social media channels with a history of spreading misinformation and is of lower quality. Reports he shares outside of the Donbas provided by Russian Federation 1st Army Corps units have greater fidelity.

 **Andrei Morozov:** Morozov is a pro-Russian milblogger and a radio communications and logistics specialist with the Russian 2nd Army Corps. We consider him a provider of high-quality information, especially within his fields of specialty. In the fall of 2022, Morozov was detained by OMON for up to three weeks due to his content and has had his online material censored by the Kremlin several times over the last 11 months.

 **Private Military Company Wagner Group Social Media:** We consider reports from PMC Wagner of Russian victories as overstating gains and reports of Russian failures, particularly among the Russian Ministry of Defense and the 1st and 2nd Army Corps of the Russian Army, as overstating problems. We do not consider claims of territorial control changes from Wagner as authentic without pictures, videos, or **unique** Russian State Media reports that include a video that can be geolocated.

 **Luhansk People's Republic Joint Center for Control and Coordination:** We only use their reports about large-scale artillery and HIMARS strikes in the occupied territories.

⊖ **Leonid Pasechnik:** We do not use any combat, territorial control changes, troop movements, casualty claims, or equipment destroyed claims from the self-declared leader of the so-called Luhansk People's Republic.

⚠ **Donetsk People's Republic People's Militia:** We only use their reports for videos and pictures that can be confirmed by date, time, weather, and geolocation.

⊖ **Donetsk People's Republic Territorial Defense:** We do not use combat, territorial control changes, troop movements, casualty claims, or equipment destroyed claims from their public relations and social media channels. They have repeatedly engaged in misinformation and disinformation.

⊖ **Denis Pushilin:** We do not use any combat, territorial control changes, troop movements, casualty claims, or equipment destroyed claims from the self-declared leader of the so-called Donetsk People's Republic.

⚠ **Ramzan Kadyrov:** The contribution and impact of Chechen forces in Ukraine have become minimal, and Akhmat no longer produces large volumes of video content that can be geolocated. We continue to monitor his channels.

✅ **General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine:** We consider the morning and evening reports, specifically combat reports, territorial control changes, and troop movements, from GSAFU to be high quality. The Ukrainian General Staff uses clever wording to create plausible deniability of battlefield failures. Combat reports start with "repelled attacks of the occupant forces in the vicinities of," which negates reporting fighting in areas where territory was lost. Instead of misinformation or disinformation, GSAFU engages in omission. Reports about problems within the Russian military are given more weight if the SBU or GUR reinforces them or if there is added confirmation in the Russian milblogger information space.

✅ **DeepState:** We use the Daily Report from DeepState for combat reports and territorial control changes. They frequently support their claims with geolocated, time, date, and weather-confirmed pictures and videos, making them a high-quality Ukrainian-based source. They occasionally overstate Russian territorial control claims but never present disinformation or

misinformation. Combined with the reports from GSAFU, gaps in combat reports are filled. We support DeepState through their Patreon at \$10 a month.

✔ **Institute for the Study of War:** We occasionally leverage the map and territorial control change information produced by the ISW when there is conflicting data. Their presentation of Russian-assessed, Ukrainian-assessed, and Russian-claimed information is helpful when our analysts have to make a judgment call due to the absence of verifiable information. We do not copy from their map but take their territorial control information as an additional data point when assessing our own changes.

⚠ **Ivan Fedorov:** We use information about insurgent activity and HIMARS strikes in Zaporizhia provided by Fedorov, the exiled mayor of Melitiopol.

✔ **Vitaly Kim:** When there are reports of potential air raids in Ukraine, we monitor Kim, the Mykolaiv Oblast Administrative and Military Governor, for realtime reports. Kim is consistently one of the first, if not the first, Ukrainian government official to confirm kamikaze drones or missiles have been launched toward Ukraine.

⊖ **Oleksiy Arestovych:** We no longer use the information provided by Arestovych after being fired from his role as the Chief Advisor to the President of Ukraine. Before being terminated, Arestovych had developed a reputation for providing exaggerated, unverified, and false claims for Ukrainian successes and failures.